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(c) whether the Government have considered any proposal to permit ex-tappers to sell neera and if so, the orders passed thereon?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The concessions granted to ex-tappers for tapping are as follows :—

(i) Tapping of palmyra trees for sweet toddy for the purpose of jaggery manufacture through co-operative societies has been permitted throughout the State;

(ii) Tapping of coconut trees for the said purpose is allowed in select areas of Coimbatore, Malabar and South Kanara districts. In North Arcot and Malabar districts, tapping of date trees and sago trees is also allowed respectively for the same purpose.

(iii) Sale and consumption of sweet toddy as a beverage is allowed throughout Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli districts.

(iv) In South Kanara, Salem and Madurai districts; a few jaggery societies have been permitted to run neera parlours. In Madras City, such parlours are run in summer season and in the exhibitions conducted annually by Congress and other organizations.

" (b) No Sir.

" (c) A proposal to introduce a State-wide neera scheme has been dropped in the interest of Prohibition."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Is there any proposal to permit by licence the tapping of trees as a general scheme for non-alcohol purposes, of course, say, for the manufacture of sweet toddy, jaggery, etc., referred to by the Hon. Minister? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I do not know whether it is possible. But there is the possibility of misusing the licence if licence is given in that respect."

Additional staff employed for Prohibition enforcement work.

* 187 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table of the House a list showing details of the additional staff and officers employed in the Police Department for the Prohibition enforcement work recently taken over by that department; and

(b) to state the total saving effected by Government by the transfer of the above work to the Police Department?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The staff sanctioned for the Excise and Prohibition Department, both permanent and temporary, has been divided between the Board of Revenue (Excise) for residuary work and the

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Inspector-General of Police for enforcement work. The staff transferred to the Police Department for enforcement work consists of 3 Assistant Commissioners of Excise, 20 Inspectors of Excise, 37 Assistant Inspectors of Excise, 201 Sub-Inspectors of Excise, 247 Petty Officers, 2,525 Prohibition Guards, 1 Superintendent, 9 Head Clerks, 17 upper division clerks, 45 lower division clerks, 3 typists and 1 attender. Nineteen lorries and buses, 3 station waggons and 18 jeeps with 22 bus drivers, 22 cleaners and 18 jeep drivers have also been transferred to the Police Department. The Government have sanctioned temporarily from 29th November 1954 to 28th February 1955, a post of an officer on Special Duty (Re-organization) in the Office of the Inspector-General of Police with the rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Police and pay in the scale of Rs. 1,950—50—2,150 with overseas pay of £13–6–8 per mensem and with 1 Junior Superintendent, 1 upper division clerk, 1 lower division clerk and 1 typist to attend to the preliminary work in implementing the transfer in respect of the large staff taken over by the Inspector-General of Police and their re-disposition and in formulating a re-training scheme for them.

" (b) There has been no saving on account of the transfer."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know what is the total amount spent by the Government on enforcing Prohibition? "

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I want notice, Sir."

Use of the office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police as a bus stand in connection with the Avadi Congress Session.

* 188 *Q*.—Sri V. GURUNANDAN ROW : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, Poonamallee High Road, Madras, was being used as a bus stand for parking buses belonging to private bus operators from about the 15th January 1955 in connection with the Avadi Session of the Indian National Congress; and

(b) whether any rent was collected from them for using the Government premises as a bus stand and if so, how much?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) No Sir. In connection with the All-India Congress Session at Avadi in January 1955, arrangements were made in the public interest to run special buses from Madras to Avadi and back from four convenient loading points in the City. One of these loading points was located opposite to the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic and Licensing, at Egmore. Since all the buses could not be parked at the loading point